

Prangonemor to bring back 'Shesher Kobita' for Baishakh celebrations

Renowned theatre troupe Prangonemor will stage its acclaimed adaptation of Rabindranath Tagore's *Shesher Kobita* on April 13 and 14 at 7pm, marking Chaitra Sankranti and Pahela Baishakh, at Dr Nilima Ibrahim Auditorium, Bangladesh Mahila Samiti.

Dramatised by Ananta Hira and directed by Nuna Afroz, the production explores the poignant love story of Amit Roy and Labanya Debi. The cast includes Hira, Afroz, Yusuf Russell, and many others.



WHAT'S THE HAPS?

Chaitra Sankranti and Borsho-boron

Channel i-Shurer Dhara Hajaro **Kontho Borshoboron** is set to return on April 14 after a three year hiatus, marking the celebration of Bengali New Year with choral renditions and vibrant cultural performances at Rabindra Sarobar.

The celebration will commence the evening before with a traditional Chaitra Sankranti fair, highlighting folk art, crafts, and indigenous heritage.

Date: Friday-Saturday | April 13-14, 2025

Time: 6pm onwards

Venue: Rabindra Sarobar, Dhanmondi



NEWS

No country

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Bangladesh for historical reasons is a very unique relationship. It's very fundamentally a people-to-people connect."

However, Jaishankar went on to say that New Delhi has conveyed concerns over "radicalising tendencies" in Bangladesh at the meeting between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus in Bangkok last week.

"We have concerns about the rhetoric coming out of people in Bangladesh. We have concerns about the attacks on minorities. I think we were very open about sharing those concerns," he said, responding to a question on what Modi conveyed to Yunus during their first face-to-face interaction in the Thai capital.

Three beaten

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Police yesterday accused several thousand unnamed people in a case filed over the mob killings.

Besides, the tea seller's father-in-law Chan Mia filed another case accusing three people of attempted murder over the assault on locals.

Police arrested a suspect named Sohag in the case.

RICKSHAW PULLER KILLED

Police said a rickshaw puller named Surman Khan, 43, was held captive at a neighbour's house for almost 30 hours and tortured to death in Kushtia's GK Colony area, reports our correspondent in the district.

The neighbours thought he was a thief and tortured him, said Mosarrat Hossain, the officer-in-charge of Kushtia Police Station.

Officers recovered his body from the house of a local named Hakim yesterday morning.

Police arrested Hakim, his wife, and daughter after Surman's wife filed a case.

BNP men

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Mohammad Harun, son of Abdul Gani Majhi, said, "We've known Nurul Absar for a long time. He was invited to my sister's wedding recently but could not attend due to illness. So he came to visit her on Wednesday. He was still unwell. He wanted to leave on Friday."

Ramu Police Station OC Imon Kanti Chowdhury said Nurul Absar is now in police custody. "We are checking whether there is any case against him with Rangunia Police Station or elsewhere. Otherwise, he will be handed over to his family."

1cr new jobs

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reduce excessive tax pressures on citizens and remove the psychological barriers that discourage people from paying taxes.

To make Bangladesh more attractive to foreign investors, the BNP has proposed 11 regulatory reforms.

Mirza Fakhrul mentioned eight of them in his post: making Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) more effective, modernising visa and work permit regulations, introducing 24/7 services for investors, enabling automated profit repatriation, ensuring the

availability of skilled local workers, passing laws to ensure investor protection alongside infrastructure development, improving human resource efficiency, and expanding the scope of overseas employment through proper training and incentives.

Meanwhile, BNP Standing Committee Member Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury yesterday said that if BNP is elected it would go for serious deregulation and liberalisation to accelerate economic growth through investment promotion.

"We want to bring radical changes

through simplification of everything so that the obstacles and adversities the investors face in Bangladesh would be no more," he said.

The BNP leader said this at a views-exchange with guests for the Bangladesh Investment Summit 2025. BNP arranged the event at Hotel Sarina in the city's Banani area to raise the party's future investment policy, reports UNB.

Khasru, formerly a commerce minister under the BNP, said his party has already made a plan for the future economy, which is reflected in its Vision 2030 and the 31-Point State Overhauling Outline.

ICT seeks Interpol

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for Liberation War affairs; Hasan Mahmud, former foreign minister; and Jahangir Kabir Nanak, ex-textiles and jute minister.

The others are Mohammad A Arafat, ex-state minister for information; Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, former Dhaka South City Corporation mayor and ex-AL MP; Tarique Ahmed Siddique, former defence and security adviser to ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina; Nasrul Hamid Bipu, ex-state minister for power, energy, and mineral resources; and Mohibul Hasan Chowdhury Nowfel, former education minister.

ICT's request seeks international assistance in locating and facilitating the extradition of the accused, several of whom are believed to be residing abroad.

On November 10 last year, the ICT chief prosecutor sought an Interpol red notice against Hasina.

A red notice is a request to law enforcement worldwide to locate and provisionally arrest a person pending extradition, surrender, or similar legal action, according to the Interpol website.

AYNAGHAR, BOMBS

The chief prosecutor revealed that a massive secret detention centre, known as "Aynaghbar", was discovered in Uttara following a victim's release in August last year after eight years in captivity.

Based on information from multiple survivors of enforced disappearances, a map was drawn, leading investigators

'Borbaad' leads launch of SK Films' global distribution wing

Superstar Shakib Khan's production house SK Films has officially launched its international distribution wing, with operations in North America (SK Films USA) and the Gulf (SK Films UAE). The announcement came during a press conference on April 9 in Jackson Heights, New York.

The initiative kicks off with the release of *Borbaad*—slated for April 18 in the US and April 19 in Canada.

After its Eid-ul-Fitr release across 120 theatres in Bangladesh, *Borbaad* garnered interest among expatriates. In its opening week, it will screen in 35 to 40 theatres across major US and Canadian cities.

Directed by Mehedi Hassan Hridoy, the film stars Shakib Khan and Idris Paul, alongside Misha Sawdagar, Fazlur Rahman Babu, Shahiduzzaman Selim, and Jisshu Sengupta, among others.



A MUSICAL EID

Songs that are still making memories

ZAHID AKBAR

A total of six movies were released during Eid ul-Fitr this year. Among the songs from these films, *Chand Mama* from *Borbaad* and *Konna* from *Jinn 3* have each surpassed 10 million views on YouTube. The two tracks currently top the view count charts and have remained audience favourites since their release.

Beyond these chart-toppers, several other songs from the Eid releases have also been well-received by listeners. Some have made it to YouTube's trending list, while others continue to rack up impressive view counts. Overall, the music from this year's Eid films has generated considerable buzz.

Singers, composers, and lyricists have evidently put in their best effort to offer something fresh and appealing to the audience this year. Interestingly, there has been a noticeable shift in lyrical style, melody, and musical arrangement—something that becomes evident upon listening.

This feature takes a closer look at the current state of songs from the Eid film lineup:

Chand Mama, from *Borbaad* directed by Mehedi Hassan Hridoy, was released on March 28 via the Real Energy Production YouTube channel. The song has been written, composed, and arranged by Pritom Hasan. It has been voiced by Pritom and Dola Rahman and features Shakib Khan and India's Nusrat Jahan in the music video.

In *Jinn 3*, directed by Kamruzzaman Roman, the song

Konna—written by Robiul Islam Jibon and sung by Imran Mahmudul and Dilshad Nahar Kona—was released on March 17. It too has crossed the 10 million view mark. The music video stars Nusrat Faria and Abdun Noor Shajal.

Other notable tracks from *Borbaad* include *Mayabi*, sung by Sommru Monir Konal and Imran, *Didha* by Pritom Hasan, and *Nishash* by GM Ashraf. Interestingly, *Mohamaya*, a song from the same film that hasn't even been officially released yet, has already gained popularity among listeners. Written by Shomeshwar Oli and composed by Khairul Wasi, the song is performed by Mainul Ahsan Noble.

In *Jongli*, directed by M Raahim, the song *Jonom*—written and composed by Prince Mahmud and sung by Tahsan and Atiya Anisha—has resonated well with the audience. Other songs from the film include *Bondhug Shono* by Imran and Kona, and *Jodi Alo Ashto*, sung by Habib Wahid.

The film *Daagi*, directed by Shihab Shaheen, features the song *Ektukhoni Mon*, written by Sadat Hossain and composed by Sajid Sarkar. It is voiced by Tahsan Rahman and Masha Islam. Another track from the same film, *Nye Jabi Ki*, was written by Badhon, with tune and vocals by Xefer Rahman and music arrangement by Mark Don. Both songs have found a place on the audience's list of favourites.

In the Wajed Ali Sumon directorial *Antaratma*, the song *Eka Aarale*, performed by Nazmun Munira Nancy and Pintu Ghosh, has generated a fairly warm reception from audiences.

Arrest warrants issued for Hasina, Putul

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case are Saiful Islam Sarkar, administrative officer; Purabi Goldar, senior assistant secretary; Kazi Wasi Uddin, additional secretary (administration); and Shahid Ullah Khandaker, secretary of housing and public works ministry; and Rajuk officials Anisur Rahman Mia, former chairman; Md Khurshid Alam, member (estate and land); Kabir Al Asad, member (administration and finance); Tanmoy Das, member (development and control); Md Nasir Uddin, former member (planning); Major (retd) Shamsuddin Ahmed Chowdhury, former member (development); Md Hafizur Rahman, deputy director (estate and land-3); Md Habibur Rahman, deputy director

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Khasru, formerly a commerce minister under the BNP, said his party has already made a plan for the future economy, which is reflected in its Vision 2030 and the 31-Point State Overhauling Outline.

The ACC also pressed charges in the five other graft cases involving the allocation of the plots.

Joy, Rehana and her children Tulip Siddiq, Radwan Mujib and Azmina were made accused in the charge sheets of these cases.

The court is scheduled to take cognisance of the charges in three of the cases on April 13 and two others on April 15.

Meanwhile, upon arriving at the Airport Police Station in Sylhet, the adviser expressed displeasure at the red carpet rolled out for him and a makeshift stage prepared for his welcome.

Refusing to step on the carpet, he instead greeted on-duty police personnel with handshakes.

Jahangir immediately instructed Sylhet Metropolitan Police Commissioner Md Rezaul Karim to remove the carpet. "I told you not to do this, so why is it still here? Get rid of it now."

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